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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 169
International Year of Physics, 2005

Brazil, France, Lesotho, Monaco, Portugal, Singapore and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

International Year of Physics, 2005

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that physics provides a significant basis for the development of the understanding of nature,

Noting that physics and its applications are the basis of many of today's technological advances,

Convinced that education in physics provides men and women with the tools to build the scientific infrastructure essential for development,

Being aware that the year 2005 is the centenary of seminal scientific discoveries by Albert Einstein which are the basis of modern physics,

1. *Welcomes* the proclamation of 2005 as the International Year of Physics by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to organize activities celebrating 2005 as the International Year of Physics, collaborating with physics societies and groups throughout the world, including in the developing countries;

3. *Declares* the year 2005 the International Year of Physics.

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 169
International year of Physics, 2005

Brazil, France, Lesotho, Monaco, Portugal, Singapore and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

International Year of Physics, 2005

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Croatia and Saint Kitts and Nevis

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General Assembly

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7 June 2004

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda items 8 and 94 (d)

Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee

Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Qatar:* draft resolution**

Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/213 of 23 December 2003, in which it decided to convene the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States from 30 August to 3 September 2004,

Also recalling the offer of the Government of Mauritius to host the International Meeting,

Taking note of the request by the Government of Mauritius to reschedule the International Meeting due to logistical considerations,

1. *Decides* to convene the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States from 10 to 14 January 2005;

2. *Also decides* to hold, if deemed necessary and taking into account operative paragraph 7 of its resolution 58/213, two days of informal consultations in Mauritius, on 8 and 9 January 2005, to facilitate the effective preparation of the International Meeting;

3. *Takes note* of the appointment of a Facilitator for the process of informal consultations, who will report progress thereon to the Bureau of the International Meeting, when constituted.

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** In order for the General Assembly to take action on the present proposal, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 94 (d) (Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States) and to consider it directly in plenary meeting.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 59
Strengthening of the United Nations system

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Participation of the Holy See in the work of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Holy See became a Permanent Observer State at the United Nations on 6 April 1964, and since then has always been invited to participate in the meetings of all the sessions of the General Assembly,

Recalling also that the Holy See is a party to diverse international instruments, including, inter alia, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the main disarmament treaties and the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols,

Recalling further that the Holy See enjoys membership in various United Nations subsidiary bodies, specialized agencies and international intergovernmental organizations, including the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the International Committee of Military Medicine,

Aware that the Holy See actively participates as an observer in many of the United Nations specialized agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Fund for

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Agricultural Development and the World Tourism Organization, as well as in the World Trade Organization, and that it is a full member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and a Guest of Honour in its Parliamentary Assembly, participates as an observer in various other regional intergovernmental organizations, including the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and the African Union, and is regularly invited to take part in the main meetings of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization,

Aware also that the Economic and Social Council adopted decision 244 (LXIII) on 22 July 1977 to recommend that the Holy See attend sessions of the regional commissions on a basis similar to that provided for in the relevant terms of reference applicable to States Members of the United Nations not members of the regional commissions,

Recalling that the Holy See contributes financially to the general administration of the United Nations in accordance with rate of assessment of non-member States, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003,

Considering that it is in the interest of the United Nations that all States be invited to participate in its work,

Desirous of contributing to the appropriate participation of the Holy See in the work of the General Assembly in the context of the revitalization of the work of the Assembly,

1. *Acknowledges* that the Holy See, in its capacity as an Observer State, shall be accorded the rights and privileges of participation in the sessions and work of the General Assembly and the international conferences convened under the auspices of the Assembly or other organs of the United Nations, as well as in United Nations conferences as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly during the current session about the implementation of the modalities annexed to the present resolution.

Annex

The rights and privileges of participation of the Holy See shall be effected through the following modalities, without prejudice to the existing rights and privileges:

1. The right to participate in the general debate of the General Assembly;

2. Without prejudice to the priority of Member States, the Holy See shall have the right of inscription on the list of speakers under agenda items at any plenary meeting of the General Assembly, after the last Member State inscribed on the list;

3. The right to make interventions, with a precursory explanation or the recall of relevant General Assembly resolutions being made only once by the President of the General Assembly at the start of each session of the Assembly;

4. The right of reply;

5. The right to have its communications relating to the sessions and work of the General Assembly issued and circulated directly, and without intermediary, as official documents of the Assembly;

6. The right to have its communications relating to the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly issued and circulated directly, and without intermediary, as official documents of those conferences;

7. The right to raise points of order relating to any proceedings involving the Holy See, provided that the right to raise such a point of order shall not include the right to challenge the decision of the presiding officer;

8. The right to co-sponsor draft resolutions and decisions that make reference to the Holy See; such draft resolutions and decisions shall be put to a vote only upon request from a Member State;

9. Seating for the Holy See shall be arranged immediately after Member States and before the other observers when it participates as a non-member State observer, with the allocation of six seats in the General Assembly Hall;

10. The Holy See shall not have the right to vote or to put forward candidates in the General Assembly.

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General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
23 June 2004

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 47
Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting to review the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001, entitled "Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", in which it decided to devote sufficient time and at least one full day of the annual session of the General Assembly to review and debate a report of the Secretary-General,

Bearing in mind that the Declaration contains time-bound commitments to be met by 2005, and noting that more complete data on fulfilment of the 2005 targets will be available for comprehensive review in 2006,

Recalling also its decision, in its resolution 58/236 of 23 December 2003, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", to hold a high-level meeting in 2005 to review the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment, and also that the scheduling, format, participation, including civil society participation, and other organizational details will be further considered during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 58/291 of 6 May 2004, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and integrated and coordinated implementation of and the follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields",

1. *Decides* that the high-level meeting to review the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS will be convened on 2 June 2005 and will have a technical focus with the aim of

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identifying the level of progress achieved, problems and constraints facing the full realization of those commitments and the prospects for achieving them and for sharing best practices;

2. *Decides* that the review will, inter alia, contribute to the high-level plenary meeting to be held in New York in 2005, at the commencement of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, to undertake a comprehensive review of the progress made in the fulfilment of all the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] including the internationally agreed development goals and the global partnership required for their achievement, and of the progress made in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

3. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements of the high-level meeting will be as follows:

(a) The high-level meeting shall comprise opening and closing plenary meetings and interactive round tables covering areas related to the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, particularly prevention, treatment, care and support, human rights, including gender, orphans and resources;

(b) The opening plenary meeting will set the stage for the subsequent discussions and feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(c) A representative nominated by each of the five regional groups will chair each round table, with the support of the executive heads of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS co-sponsoring agencies;

(d) In addition to Member States, observers, representatives of the entities of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, an invitation to the round-tables will be extended to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and not more than 15 civil society representatives of international, national or community organizations, including those representing and working for people living with HIV/AIDS, and the private sector, including pharmaceutical companies. The President of the General Assembly, following appropriate consultations with Member States, will draw up a list of those civil society representatives, on the basis of the recommendations of the Joint Programme and taking into account the principle of geographical representation, and will submit the list to Member States for consideration on a no-objection basis for a final decision by the Assembly on participation;

(e) In order to ensure interactive and substantive discussions of high quality, participation in each round table shall be limited to a maximum of 40 to 45 participants;

(f) Every effort shall be made to ensure equitable geographical representation in each round table, while taking into account the importance of

[1] Resolution 55/2.

ensuring a mix of countries in terms of size, HIV prevalence rates and levels of development;

(g) Participation of Member States and observers shall be limited to one round table, and each Member State representative may be accompanied by two advisers;

(h) Participation by accredited and invited civil society representatives shall be limited to one round table, and participation shall not exceed five representatives in each round table;

(i) The Chairmen of the round tables will submit summaries to the President of the General Assembly reflecting the views expressed during the discussions;

(j) The President of the General Assembly will present the summaries of the round-table discussions to the closing plenary meeting, and they will be submitted to the 2005 high-level event planned in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 58/291;

4. *Further decides* that the arrangements outlined in subparagraph 3 (d) above shall in no way create a precedent for other similar events;

5. *Also decides* that the President of the General Assembly, with support from the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and in consultation with Member States, will finalize the details and scheduling of the round tables, several of which are expected to take place concurrently, and any outstanding organizational matters.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 55
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/126 of 19 December 2003 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling also its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work,

1. *Decides* to adopt the text contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Determines* to continue with efforts for its revitalization;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on all aspects of the implementation of resolution 58/126 and the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

Annex

A. Reordering the work of the General Assembly

1. Recalling section B, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 58/126 of 19 December 2003, and having reviewed the note by the Secretariat entitled "Options for the rescheduling of the Main Committees of the General Assembly",[1] it is decided that:

(a) The consideration of the implementation of paragraph 2 of section B of its resolution 58/126 will be deferred to its fifty-ninth session, taking into account the views expressed as well as suggestions made by Member States in the context of the deliberations of the open-ended meetings of the General Committee during the fifty-eighth session;

[1] A/58/CRP.3.

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(b) With effect from the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the meetings of the Plenary of the Assembly will normally be held on Mondays and Thursdays.

B. Organization of the agenda of the General Assembly

2. Recalling section B, paragraph 4, of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/126, and having reviewed the note by the Secretariat entitled "Illustrative agenda of the General Assembly",[2] and taking into account the views expressed by Member States on the matter, it is decided that:

(a) Pursuant to paragraph 4 of section B of the annex to its resolution 58/126, the agenda of the General Assembly should be organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005[3] (or in the strategic framework, as appropriate), with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters" for the purpose of giving a sense of structure to the work of the Assembly, achieving a better presentation of the issues and challenges with which the Assembly deals and making the work of the Assembly more accessible, with the understanding that the new arrangement will not prejudge the way in which the work of the Assembly is organized and carried out;

(b) The headings of the agenda will consequently be:

(i) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(ii) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(iii) Development of Africa;

(iv) Promotion of human rights;

(v) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(vi) Promotion of justice and international law;

(vii) Disarmament;

(viii) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

(ix) Organizational, administrative and other matters;

(c) The General Committee shall make recommendations, after consultation with Member States, to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the placement of the agenda items for the fifty-ninth session under the headings, set out above, with a view to making the new arrangement effective;

(d) The provisions of the present section will be reviewed by the Assembly at its sixty-first session with a view to making further improvements, as appropriate.

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[2] A/58/CRP.4.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

C. Practices and working methods of the Main Committees

3. Recalling section B, paragraph 8, of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/126, and having reviewed the note by the Secretariat entitled "Historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees",[4] recalling that the Main Committees are bound by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and taking into account the views expressed by Member States on the matter, it is decided that:

(a) Each Main Committee shall give specific attention to the rationalization of their future agendas by biennialization, triennialization, clustering and the elimination of items and make recommendations to the Plenary of the Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005;

(b) Each Main Committee shall adopt a provisional programme of work at the end of the session for the next session to help them better plan, prepare, and organize and, in this context, review the related documentation requirements;

(c) The practice of interactive debates and panel discussions shall be utilized or expanded, as appropriate, by all Main Committees so as to enhance informal, in-depth discussions and bring together experts from various fields without prejudicing the progress of the substantive work of the Main Committees;

(d) The practice of "question time" shall be introduced, as appropriate, in all Main Committees to enable a dynamic and candid exchange with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General and special rapporteurs;

(e) The web sites of each Main Committee shall be enhanced and thereafter regularly updated and their content maintained by the secretariats of the Main Committees;

(f) The bureaux-elect of the Main Committees shall meet immediately after their election in order to discuss the organization and division of their work;

(g) With a view to ensuring continuity and effective organization of their work, the incoming bureaux of the Main Committees shall, no later than two weeks after their election, meet with the outgoing bureaux in order to consult on and review issues relating to the efficient functioning of the Committees;

(h) Prior to the opening of each session, informal briefings of each Main Committee shall be convened to discuss the organization of work.

D. Review of the agenda of the General Assembly

4. Recalling paragraph 5, section B, of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/126, having reviewed the note by the Secretariat entitled "Analysis of the agenda of the General Assembly",[5] which provides factual information on the frequency of consideration, origin and history of action on the 333 items and sub-items on the agenda, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and following consultations with concerned Member States, it is decided that:

[4] A/58/CRP.5.
[5] A/58/CRP.6.

(a) The items "Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development" and "Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields" shall be eliminated from the agenda;

(b) The items "Question of Cyprus"; "Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo"; "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)"; "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti"; "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security"; "Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait"; and "Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986" shall remain on the agenda for consideration upon the notification by a Member State;

(c) The item "Report of the Economic and Social Council" should be considered in its entirety in Plenary;

(d) While remaining on the agenda of the Plenary, the sub-item "Sport for peace and development: (a) Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" should be considered every other year and the items "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin" and "Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion" should be allocated for consideration every three years;

(e) The item "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic" should be allocated for annual consideration in the First Committee;

(f) The item "Information and communication technologies for development" and the sub-item "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: (b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions" should be allocated for annual consideration in the Second Committee;

(g) The item "Towards global partnerships" should be allocated for consideration every other year in the Second Committee;

(h) The sub-item "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: (d) Participation of volunteers, 'White Helmets', in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development" should be allocated for consideration every three years in the Second Committee;

(i) The item "Global road safety crisis" should be allocated for consideration every other year in the Third Committee;

(j) The item "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" should be allocated for annual consideration in the Fourth Committee;

(k) The item "Assistance in mine action" should be allocated for consideration every other year in the Fourth Committee;

(l) The item "University for Peace" should be allocated for consideration every three years in the Fourth Committee;

(m) Bearing in mind that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/285 of 7 September 2001, the Assembly decided to cluster all cooperation items under one item and individual cooperation items would become sub-items and that a joint debate is held for all sub-items, the Secretary-General is requested to submit a single consolidated report under the item "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations";

(n) The adjustments outlined in the paragraphs above shall take effect beginning with the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly;

(o) The Assembly will monitor the effects of the adjustments outlined in the paragraphs above and continue to make efforts, as appropriate, to further streamline the agenda of the Plenary of the Assembly.

E. General Committee

5. Recalling paragraph 1, section B, of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/126, having conducted a review of the work of the General Committee, and taking into account the views expressed by Member States on the matter, it is decided that:

(a) The work of the General Committee shall be carried out in accordance with section VI, General Committee, of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

(b) The General Committee shall continue to meet throughout the session and to play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work;

(c) To ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the General Committee shall meet regularly throughout the session with the bureaux of the Main Committees to review the progress of the work of the Committees and to make recommendations for furthering such progress;

(d) In July of each year, the General Committee shall conduct a review of the proposed programme of work of the forthcoming Assembly, on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, and submit recommendations on the matter to the forthcoming Assembly. The Secretary-General's report shall include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session;

(e) The General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, will continue to consider the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the Assembly and make recommendations thereon to the Assembly during its fifty-ninth session;

(f) On the basis of proposals from the President of the General Assembly, and in the light of the positive experience during the fifty-eighth session, the

General Committee is encouraged, as appropriate, to continue to schedule informal briefings on topical issues;

(g) At the beginning of each session, the General Committee, following recommendations from the President of the General Assembly, shall recommend to the Assembly a programme of, and format for, interactive debates on the items on its agenda;

(h) The General Committee shall continue to consider ways and means to further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects and make recommendations on the matter to the General Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.

F. Documentation

6. In the light of its decision in paragraph 7, section B, of General Assembly resolution 58/126, that the heavy volume of documentation that is submitted to the Assembly for its consideration should be reduced, the Secretary-General is requested to:

(a) Update the note by the Secretariat entitled "Control and limitation of documentation",[6] in the light of the provisions of the present resolution;

(b) Submit the updated version of the note by the Secretariat for the consideration of the General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, so that it may make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

(c) Take the necessary action to initiate the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to start, on a trial basis, a consultative process with the President of the General Assembly and the Chairmen of the Main Committees of the Assembly at the end of the main part of each session of the Assembly, with a view to consolidating reports on related subjects, if decided by the Main Committees.

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[6] A/58/CRP.7.